

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Mullick (US 3,071,081). Claim 1 and claim 14 (the independent claims from which all other claims depend) have been amended herein with the limitation that there is an aperture, on said planar surface, at the center of said planar surface and said aperture is configured to receive water from said first region.

Another limitation added to claims 1 and 14 explains the relationship among the regions of the device to specify how water flows into and out of the device. Mullick's device has a funnel like piece disposed in the path of water, unlike the present invention. Whereas the present invention has a shelf that narrows the diameter, as well as a second region with a gradually narrowing diameter, Mullick's device has an actual funnel like obstruction in the path of the water. The present invention has a shelf with a planar surface and an aperture in the center, unlike Mullick's device.

Applicant respectfully advances that, as stated in the detailed description, the relationships between parts of the invention are very important to it working properly; thus, this limitation to the claims is important to making the present invention work properly. Applicant believes that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mullick (US 3,071,081). Applicant believes that the aforementioned amendments to claim 1, as aforementioned, now place claim 3 in condition for allowance.

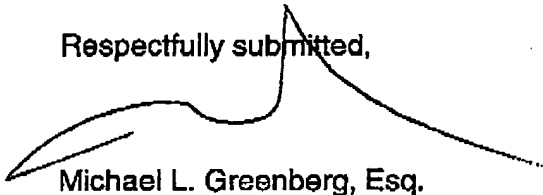
A request for continued examination and a petition for any and all extensions of time are hereby made and authorization to charge deposit account 500356 is hereby given for all fees due and owing.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this response was faxed on March 7, 2006, to the
Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, VA, at 571-273-8300.

**The Examiner is encouraged to please call the Attorney-of-Record,
Michael L. Greenberg, at 202-625-7000 upon reading this amendment for an
interview should the claims not be deemed allowable. This has been
submitted with a request for continued examination.**

Respectfully submitted,



Michael L. Greenberg, Esq.

Reg. No. 47,312